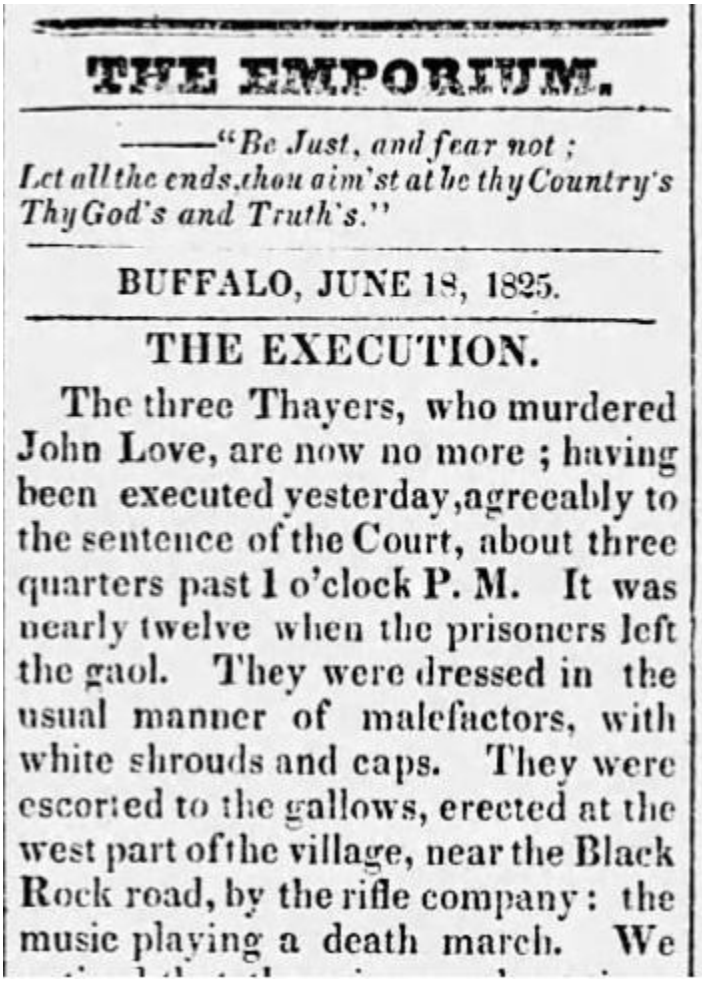
THE BUFFALO HISTORY MUSEUM

Where were the Three Thayers hanged?

The jail (gaol) was next to the Erie County Courthouse on what we now call Lafayette Square, presently the site of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. Back then it was called Courthouse Square.
The Thayer brothers were marched to the gallows through the village to the west, "near the Black Rock Road."



THE EMPORIUM.

—"*Be Just, and fear not ; Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy Country's Thy God's and Truth's.*"

BUFFALO, JUNE 18, 1825.

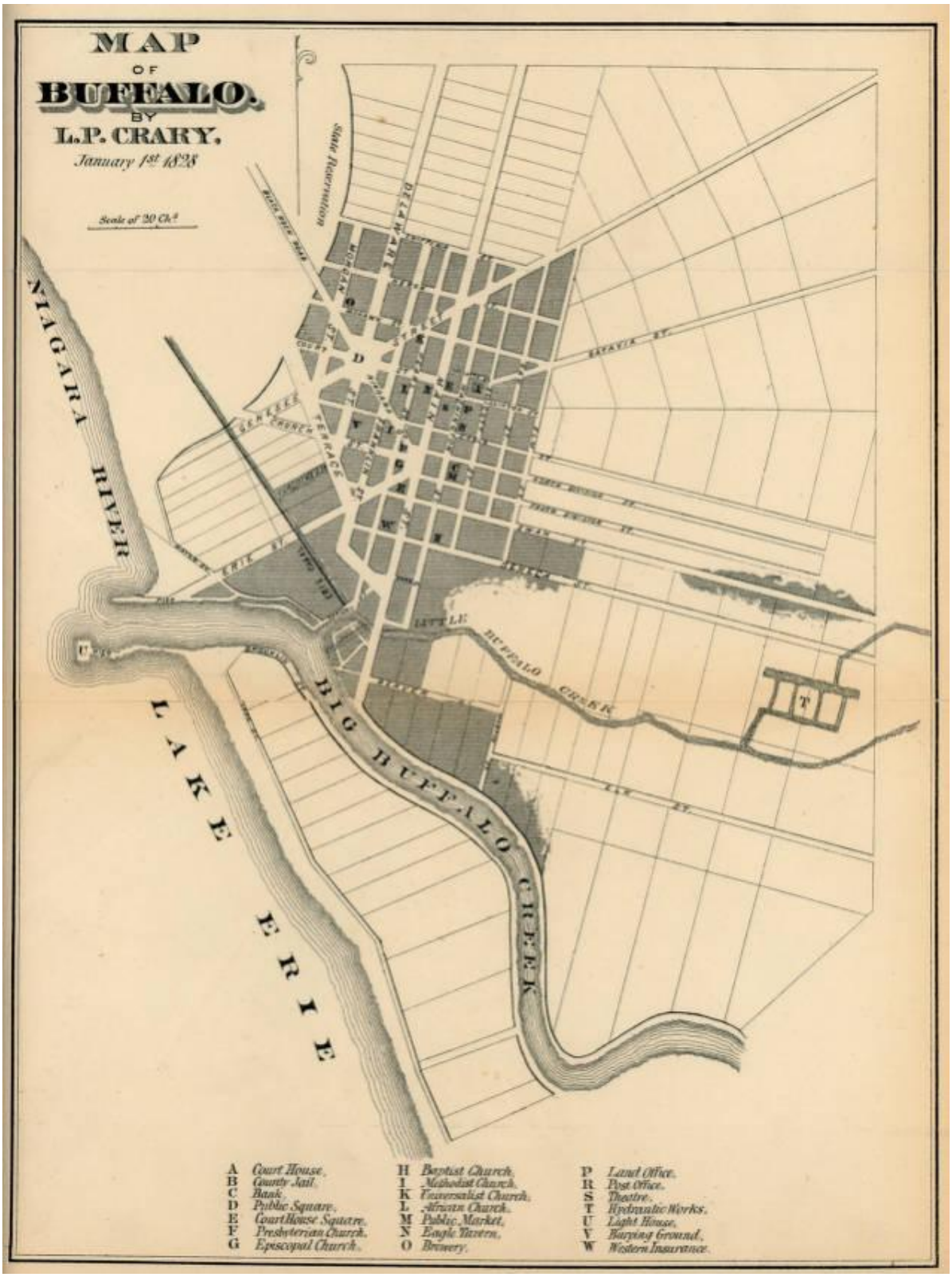
THE EXECUTION.

The three Thayers, who murdered John Love, are now no more ; having been executed yesterday, agreeably to the sentence of the Court, about three quarters past 1 o'clock P. M. It was nearly twelve when the prisoners left the gaol. They were dressed in the usual manner of malefactors, with white shrouds and caps. They were escorted to the gallows, erected at the west part of the village, near the Black Rock road, by the rifle company : the music playing a death march. We

Excerpt from the *Buffalo Emporium and General Advertiser*, Sun, Jun 19, 1825, page 2.

The Black Rock Road is better known as Niagara Street. Precisely where along Niagara Street the gallows stood is unclear, but somewhere on or adjacent to Niagara Square is a reasonable guess, as it had the capacity to accommodate the crowds.

Below is a map from 1828, which shows the Black Rock Road and Niagara Street being one and the same.



Map of Buffalo by L.P. Crary, originally printed in the 1828 Buffalo city directory